AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. - 22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium containing a user interface for a computer, said user interface comprising:

at least two different images for a cursor, including a first image which comprises a pointer arrow having a tail, and a second image which comprises a hybrid consisting of a pointer arrow with a variable graphic in place of said tail, wherein said variable graphic is capable of a numeric display relating to ~~represents~~ a parameter ~~condition~~ of a process; and

means for normally displaying a cursor with said first image and for switching the display to said second image upon initiation of the dragging of ~~detecting that said cursor is associated with~~ at least one user interface object ~~that corresponds with said condition, wherein said condition is the dragging of an object, and said displaying means switches said display upon initiation of a drag operation~~.

24. (Currently Amendment) The computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein ~~said condition is a busy state for an application, and~~ said displaying means switches said display upon detecting that the cursor is positioned over a user interface object associated with an application in a busy state.

25. (Canceled).

26. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 23, further including a third image comprising a hybrid consisting of a pointer arrow with a graphic in place of said tail that represents a copy operation, and wherein said displaying means switches said display from said second image to said third image upon detecting that the cursor is positioned over a destination object to which the dragged object can be copied.

27. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the graphic of said second image has a first color, and the graphic of said third image has a second, different color.

28. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein said graphic of said second image includes a quantitative value that represents a characteristic of the dragged object.

29. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 28, wherein the graphic of said third image also includes said quantitative value.

30. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein said graphic of said second image includes a quantitative value that represents a characteristic of the dragged object.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 30, wherein said quantitative value indicates the number of objects that are being dragged.

32. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 30, wherein said quantitative value indicates the size of one or more objects being dragged.

33. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 30, wherein said graphic comprises a geometric object, and the size of said geometric object is dynamically varied to accommodate said quantitative value.

34. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein said graphic indicates that an object being dragged will be deleted.

35. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying a cursor on a display of a computer, comprising the steps of:

normally displaying a cursor on said display with a first image which comprises a pointer arrow having a tail, and

switching the representation of said cursor on said display to a second image which comprises a hybrid consisting of a pointer arrow with a variable graphic in place of said tail, wherein said variable graphic is capable of an alphanumeric display relating to ~~represents~~ a parameter ~~condition~~ of a process, upon initiation of

the dragging of ~~detecting that said cursor is associated with~~ at least one user interface object ~~that corresponds with said condition, wherein said condition is the dragging of an object, and said display of said cursor is switched upon initiation of a drag operation~~.

36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 35, wherein ~~said condition is a busy state for an application, and~~ said display of said cursor is switched upon detecting that the cursor is positioned over a user interface object associated with an application in a busy state.

37. (Canceled).

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, further including the step of switching said display from said second image to a third image comprising a hybrid consisting of a pointer arrow with a graphic in place of said tail that represents a copy operation, upon detecting that the cursor is positioned over a destination object to which the dragged object can be copied.

39. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein the graphic of said second image has a first color, and the graphic of said third image has a second, different color.

40. (Original) The method of claim 38, wherein said graphic of said second image includes a quantitative value that represents a characteristic of the dragged object.

41. (Original) The method of claim 40, wherein the graphic of said third image also includes said quantitative value.

42. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 35, wherein said graphic of said second image includes a quantitative value that represents a characteristic of the dragged object.

43. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein said quantitative value indicates the number of objects that are being dragged.

44. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein said quantitative value indicates the size of one or more objects being dragged.

45. (Original) The method of claim 42, wherein said graphic comprises a geometric object, and further including the step of dynamically varying the size of said geometric object to accommodate said quantitative value.

46. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein said graphic indicates that an object being dragged will be deleted.

47. (Currently Amended) A method for displaying a cursor on a display of a computer, comprising the steps of:

normally displaying a cursor on a display with a first image; and

switching the representation of said cursor on said display to a second image which comprises a hybrid consisting of a portion of the first image and a variable graphic, wherein said variable graphic is capable of a symbol display relating to ~~represents~~ a condition of a process, upon initiation of the dragging of ~~detecting that said cursor is associated with~~ at least one user interface object ~~that corresponds with said condition, wherein said condition is the dragging of an object, and said display of said cursor is switched upon initiation of a drag operation~~.

48. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 47, wherein ~~said condition is a busy state for an application, and~~ said display of said cursor is switched upon detecting that the cursor is positioned over a user interface object associated with an application in a busy state.

49. (Canceled).

50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, further including the step of switching said display from said second image to a third image comprising a hybrid consisting of the portion of the first image with a graphic that represents a copy operation, upon detecting that the cursor is positioned over a destination object to which the dragged object can be copied.

51. (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein the graphic of said second image has a first color, and the graphic of said third image has a second, different color.

52. (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein said graphic of said second image includes a quantitative value that represents a characteristic of the dragged object.

53. (Original) The method of claim 52, wherein the graphic of said third image also includes said quantitative value.

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 47, wherein said graphic of said second image includes a quantitative value that represents a characteristic of the dragged object.

55. (Original) The method of claim 54, wherein said quantitative value indicates the number of objects that are being dragged.

56. (Original) The method of claim 54, wherein said quantitative value indicates the size of one or more objects being dragged.

57. (Original) The method of claim 54, wherein said graphic comprises a geometric object, and further including the step of dynamically varying the size of said geometric object to accommodate said quantitative value.

58. (Original) The method of claim 47, wherein said graphic indicates that an object being dragged will be deleted.